IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl.No.: 09/464,315 Confirmation No.: 7360

Applicant: Du et al Filed: 12/16/1999

TC/AU: 2123 Examiner: Craig

Docket: TI-29436 Cust.No.: 23494

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O.Box 1450 Alexandria VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This preliminary amendment accompanies a Request for Continued Examination. Applicants amend as follows.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.